

Beverly Hills Man, 39, Found Dead in Truck

A Beverly Hills man found slumped in his panel truck at Hawthorne and Del Amo Blvd. Tuesday was apparently the victim of a heart attack, Harbor General Hospital officials reported.

Roland Myers, 39, was found unconscious in his truck, and efforts of the Torrance fire department rescue squad to revive him were to no avail. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

TYPE METAL
Type metal is usually made of lead with a hardening of tin and antimony.

Massie to Head Optimist Club, Figueredo Top Aide

Harold A. Massie, 1725 Iris, has been elected president of the Torrance Optimist Club to succeed Clyde Anderson.

Elected at the Monday night meeting of the club, Massie will be installed in June and will take office at the first meeting in July.

A patternmaker for Food Machinery and Chemical Corp. in Vernon, Massie has been a member of the club since 1950. He is first vice president of the club now.

Elected to succeed him as first vice president was David V. Figueredo, 1751 Date Ave., service station operator and member of the city's Planning Commission.

Other Officers
Other new officers include Atty. Bob Pannell, second vice president, and E. V. Winkelbauer, secretary-treasurer. Members of the board who will serve with the officers and Past President Anderson include George A. Bradford, former president; Les DeMott, Carl Randall, and H. G. "Zeke" Trezise.



(Marian Photo)
HAROLD A. MASSIE
... New Optimist President

The new president has lived in Torrance since 1927 and attended elementary and high schools here. He served 3½ years in the Navy during World War II, much of the time aboard Navy repair ships in the South Pacific.

His wife, Betty, is employed at North High School where she is assigned to the student activities office. The couple has two children, a son, Dennis, and a daughter, Carol.

Among the activities Massie will direct as club president will be the annual fireworks stands in July, oratorical contests, annual grammar school track meet, and the work with the Optimist Home for Boys in Highland Park.

Scares Store Clerks
A pistol-packing man has startled several clerks at the Lomita Safeway Store, although he has not tried to rob them. Albert Coast, manager, told sheriff's deputies Tuesday.

Coast said that the man has made several appearances at the store to buy groceries. Once, he pulled the gun out of his pocket while he was reaching for change and a second time, pulled back his coat to reveal the weapon, he said.

Boy, Gunpowder Match Combine To Make Boom

A young scientist who was experimenting to see what would happen if he applied a match to a can of smokeless gun powder found out Monday—with a bang.

Dane Walker, 9, 18332 Haas Ave., received first degree burns on his hands and body in the resulting explosion, but was not reported seriously hurt. The garage, scene of the experiment, was scorched a little by a resulting fire but there was no serious damage.

Now Dane knows—boy plus match plus gunpowder equals "boom."

... Puppy

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shepherd dog. The men from the pound came and picked up Lucky. Several neighbors said he was removed from the Wells front porch.

Mrs. Wells says that the dog they wanted wasn't Lucky, but a brother of his which was owned by another neighbor. She always kept Lucky in the house or close at hand, she said.

\$8 Fee Required
A friend called the pound and found that it would cost \$8 to have the dog inoculated against rabies and to get a license for him. The friend, a son of a Redondo Beach councilman, said the dog would be reclaimed; Fallon said the pound was never notified.

Mrs. Wells said the incident occurred on Tuesday and she wasn't able to get the money until she got paid on Friday. Business took her to Los Angeles on Saturday and she arrived at the pound after it closed. She says she understood that the humane society wasn't open on Sunday. She showed up early Monday and was told that Lucky had been sold the previous day.

The children were heartbroken and Frankie became sick. He was out of school for two weeks and his mother took off from her job at Hughes Aircraft for a week to care for him.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Wells checked with Fallon, who said that the dog had been in custody for seven days and had been sold because the officials did not know who he belonged to and because he had been held more than the legal five days required.

Mrs. Wells claimed that the dog had been in custody only five days and that humane society officials had been notified that he would be claimed.

Fallon, however, promised to try to get Lucky back for her children, but said that he has been unable to get in touch with the new owners, who apparently are out of town.

Mrs. Wells said she declined Fallon's offer of another dog.

Burglar Hits Blvd. Firms

The same burglar who hit four downtown Torrance businesses last Friday morning may be the same man who burglarized four Torrance Blvd. establishments Tuesday, according to Torrance police.

Some \$500 lot was garnered at the four places. The intruder pried open doors and ransacked Dr. A. A. Stetson's office at 2046 Torrance Blvd., Dr. P. C. Chan's office at 2414 Torrance Blvd. and a medical laboratory at 2207 Torrance Blvd., and an escrow company office at 2410 Torrance Blvd.

Although the money was taken, the burglar apparently was not interested in narcotics or other valuable medical and office equipment, police said.

Protest of Appointments Widened by Councilmen

Protests of Torrance firemen that men on civil service lists are being bypassed in promotions and appointments took on wider aspects this week when Councilman Victor Benstead demanded that he be furnished with an explanation any time a man on the eligible list was passed.

Under fire is the nationally used "rule of three" in making civil service appointments whereby the appointing officer is given a list of the top three scorers on the civil service examinations and can appoint the one he prefers.

Records Compared
Jerry Holloman, chairman of the safety and welfare committee of the Torrance local of the International Assn. of Firefighters, was prepared to take his case before the City Civil Service Board last night after telling Councilmen that men had been bypassed 28 times in 41 promotions in the local department during the past seven years. He compared it with records purportedly from other cities which showed a far lower record of bypassing.

Benstead's demand for a report by the appointing authority whenever a man on an eligible list is passed came as notification of the appointment of the No. 2 man on the list was made by one of the city's departments.

He said he had a right to know why a man was not appointed if he was at the top of a list.

Others Disagree
Mayor Isen and Bob Jahn disagreed with Benstead on this point. Isen said it was none of the Council's business—Jahn saying that if the reports were made an order of the Council, not to send them to him.

"I don't want to have any part of it," Jahn said. "If we start this, the man will have the right to appear before us and appeal the decision made," Jahn said.

Assistant City Manager Don Mansfield pointed out that such information might prove embarrassing or even detrimental to the individual if made the subject of reports. He cited the case of one civil service applicant who was turned down because she always carried a large green umbrella which

she said was "to ward off the effects of cosmic rays."

Applicants can finish first in the examinations and still be unsuitable for employment by the city, Mansfield told the Councilmen.

Not Good Policy
City Manager George Stevens said the demands of firemen that the No. 1 man be appointed because he can be weeded out during the probation period was "not good personnel policy. It is certainly an expensive way of selecting employees."

The firemen have been backed up in their fight to eliminate any discretion on the part of department heads by top union representatives of the Southland.

Hugh S. MacColl, international organizer for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, and Cecil O. Johnston, secretary-treasurer of the San Pedro-Wilmington Central Labor Council have made several visits to the City Council meetings where the matter has been discussed.

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South High Safety Plans

The possibility of building either an underpass or overpass in front of North High School to allow children to get across busy Pacific Coast Hwy. will be considered at a meeting with safety experts in May, the board of education was told Tuesday night.

THIEF PICKS LOCK, BUT TAKES NOTHING

Although someone picked the lock to break into Glenn's Radio and TV, 2126 Pacific Coast Hwy., apparently nothing was taken, Glenn Holloway told sheriff's deputies Sunday.

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